

Initiative Name:**Long Term Care Reform (Create an Elder Justice/Abuse Task Force)****Initiative Description:**

Coordinate efforts to strengthen protection of Michigan's vulnerable older adults at risk of physical abuse, neglect and financial exploitation. Currently, there is no single point of authority to coordinate efforts on behalf of Michigan's vulnerable elderly. This initiative will be ongoing over the next three years as necessary to support prevention activities and the implementation of enhanced protections.

Expected Outcomes:Administration Goals Attained:

- Michigan's vulnerable adults will be better protected from abuse, neglect and financial exploitation.
- A statewide coordinating/communication system for all state resources related to elder abuse and exploitation will be implemented.
- Michigan will have a statewide focal point for obtaining new resources, and shepherding improvements in its system of prevention, and protection of vulnerable older adults.

Other Benefits and Outcomes:

- Private funding to support abuse and neglect prevention and protection efforts will be obtained.
- A single point of authority to coordinate efforts to protect Michigan's vulnerable elderly will be developed.

Progress to Date:

- The Task Force will be a state level group comprised of individuals and representatives of stakeholder organizations invested in protecting senior citizens from criminal abuse or financial exploitation. The Administration has determined that the Elder Justice/Abuse Task Force will be named by the end of 2004 and will begin work in January of 2005.
- OSA and FIA staff have laid out the approach and developed a cooperative plan for writing the prospectus, which will define the work plan for the Task Force.
- Research relative to programs designed to prevent and address elder abuse is being conducted with the assistance of a Master's In Social Work candidate.